INTERNATIONAL LABOUR OFFICE (ILO)

INTERNATIONAL PROGRAMME ON THE ELIMINATION OF CHILD LABOUR (IPEC)

Combating the trafficking of children for labour exploitation in West and Central Africa (phase II)

COUNTRY ANNEX¹ I:

BENIN

Programme Location:	Cotonou

¹ Provides specific details on the national context, response, programme interventions, target groups (number of beneficiaries), and partner agencies (specified where possible). Details on objectives, outputs, activities, indicators and assumptions are not repeated since they are basically similar for all participating countries.

Benin is a West African country belonging to the world's Least Developed Countries (LCDs); 57% of the population lives below the poverty line. Benin has almost 5 million inhabitants. The country is divided into 8 provinces: the West Atacora is the poorest one whereas the extreme North is the richest one. 70% of the population is concentrated in the South of the country, which has a population density of about 250 inhabitants per km² compared to 13 per km² in the North. The population is young: 49% is younger than 15 years and only 6% is older than 60 years. Far more people live in rural (64%) than in urban areas (36%) and the agricultural sector (including fishing) employs almost 62% of the population.

The population is made of about 42 ethnic groups that speak approximately 50 dialects. The main groups are the Fon, Adja, Yoruba, Dendi and Batonou. Several religions are found in Benin: animism (35%), Christianity (35%), Islam (21%), other religions (2%).

Although Education is compulsory since 1975, school enrolment is low: according to UNICEF, 56% of children went to school in 1996. 65% of the population over 15 years old was illiterate in 1994. School dropouts and children who have never attended school are the most likely to become child workers.

The traditional practice of entrusting a child to a third party for his/her education (known as "placement") has continued despite the introduction of formal schooling. The placement of children with relatives for educational purposes has developed gradually into exploitative placement, where children are made to work from an early age with or without pay. As a result of economic hardship partly due to the Structural Adjustment Programme and the deterioration of family structures due to social change, many parents have come to rely on their children to contribute to the household's work or income from a very early age. In 1992, 52.7% of the population aged between 10 and 19 years worked, most of them in the agricultural sector, assisting in family owned farms.

Since 1991, evidence of a substantial traffic in minors within Benin and from Benin towards the neighbouring countries of the sub-region and Central Africa has been reported. Benin is both a supplier and a recipient country of trafficked children. It is also a transit country for traffickers whose activity is facilitated by the porous and unchecked borders. According to statistics from the police, 802 child victims of trafficking from Benin and other countries - mostly girls of all ages - were intercepted at the border in, 802 in 1997, 1,058 in 1998 and 670 in 1999.

Five provinces out of 12 in Benin have been identified as sending prone areas: Atacora, Atlantique, Borgou, Mono and Zou. The countries of destination are Côte d'Ivoire, Niger, Nigeria, Gabon and Cameroon. In the recipient countries, children perform all kinds of activities. Boys are employed on cocoa, coffee and banana plantations and on construction sites. Girls, and sometimes boys, are used as domestic servants, household helps or street vendors, particularly in Nigeria, Côte d'Ivoire and Gabon. Girls are also victims of commercial sexual exploitation.

2. The response

Benin has set up many national structures to improve child welfare. Since 1983, the Brigade for the Protection of Minors is active in:

- the prevention of social maladjustment of the young, and
- in the study of offences committed by minors.

Unfortunately, the service suffers due to insufficient funding, a lack of staff and inappropriate infrastructure. There are demands to decentralise the Brigade, to make it more visible, to equip it with telephones, computers, vehicles etc. and to provide more personnel. This Brigade has installed a **free telephone line** for denouncing violations of the rights of the child. However, at present, this line covers a range of only 50 km. and should be extended.

In January 1997, the Ministry of Justice created a unit for the Juridical Protection of the Child. This unit monitors juvenile justice cases and carries out research with a view to drafting appropriate legislation. Their efforts to combat trafficking in children include:

- the creation of a **data bank** on trafficking in children;
- monitoring law suits of trafficking in children from arrest to judgement;
- the revision of legislation on trafficking.

The efficiency of this unit is affected by problems such as: insufficient funding, a deficiency of qualified personnel and the lack of adequate infrastructure.

In December 1999, the Ministry of Social Protection and Family established a unit for Family and Childhood. Its action to combat displacement and trafficking in children is partly funded by UNICEF, within the framework of the programme of social development aid. In the near future, **crisis centres for children** are planned to be created in every department of Benin.

According to the Benin report, directives have been sent to concerned ministerial departments inciting them to combat trafficking in children and government officials have undertaken missions to receiving countries.

In addition, UNICEF is associated with the following programmes that combat trafficking:

- establishing **local committees** in the rural areas that are known to supply children;
- sensitising the population through **radio and television broadcasts** on trafficking and collecting newspaper cuttings on trafficking in children;
- making women, living in rural or semi-urban areas, aware of their rights and giving them **access to credit** so that they can earn enough to raise their children;
- financially supporting NGOs that facilitate the reintegration of children;
- assisting in the preparation of intergovernmental meetings between the concerned ministries of the governments of Benin and Gabon.

On the legal side, rules for issuing authorizations for minors (aged below 18) to leave the country is fixed by decree no 95-191 (1995). Accordingly, every adult who wishes to leave the country with a minor has to request permission in writing from the regional authority, on the basis of a recommendation by the chief of the village or the mayor of the community. It is necessary to indicate the motive of the journey, the identity of the person accompanying the minor, as well as the identity of the tutor in the country of destination. A security deposit, on a special bank account of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, is also required. This is reimbursed as soon as the child returns to Benin. Otherwise, it can be used for the repatriation of the child. In addition, the Ministry of Justice and the Ministry of Health and Social Protection are drafting legislation on internal as well as cross-border displacement of children.

At regional level, Benin reports that there is collaboration between the different Interpol services. The Togo report mentions that, since October 1984, there is an agreement between Ghana, Benin, Nigeria and Togo, to facilitate the return of children being trafficked and the extradition of traffickers. According to this agreement, if, for example, the Beninese police intercept a convoy of Togolese children being trafficked through Benin to Nigeria or Gabon, the Togolese police should be informed and the children returned. Unfortunately, no further details are provided by the Togo study and the reports of other countries concerned do not make any reference to this agreement.

Besides government's initiatives, many programmes are run by NGOs to combat child trafficking, such as: DEI, ABAEF, CEO, Terre des Hommes, PIED, ESAM and GES². Some of their activities are:

• organization of debates on trafficking in children (ABAEF);

² DEI: Défense des Enfants-International, ABAEF: Association Béninoise d'Assistance à l'Enfant et à la Famille; CEO: le Carrefour d'Ecoute et d'Orientation de l'Archevêché de Cotonou; Programme Insertion des Enfants Déshérités; ESAM: Enfants Solidaires d'Afrique et du Monde; GES: Groupement Entente et Solidaire.

- elaboration of **training material for teachers** on child trafficking and on awareness raising methods they can use in the community;
- follow-up of children arrested by the police;
- reintegration and monitoring of victims of trafficking (Terre des Hommes, PIED);
- whenever a child is reintegrated, sensitising parents about trafficking (PIED).

	T ('6" (' 6.1)				Beneficia	aries	Potential	Budge	et (US\$)
Intervention site	Justification of the choice of the site	Outputs	Activities	Areas of Intervention	Туре	No.	implementing agencies	IPEC	National
PROVINCES: Ouémé: - Kraké Plateaux: - Kétou Littoral: - Savi Borgou: - Nikki - Parakou Atacora: - Djougou Mono: - Bopa - Lokossa - Dogbo Zou: - Zakpota - Bantè - Glazoué - Zogbodomè	All these sites have been identified as sending prone and transit areas of trafficked children	parents are sensitized	- use rural radios to inform the public through 2 weekly programs in the local languages - use videos and posters about child labour and child trafficking - organize conferences, chats, debates on the issue	Advocacy	Communities in interventions sites, in particular children, women and head of families	300'00	Africa Obota (NGO)	25'000	

					Beneficia	aries	Potential	Budg	et (US\$)
Intervention site	Justification of the choice of the site	Outputs	Activities	Areas of Intervention	Туре	No.	implementing agencies	IPEC	National
Intervention sites in 7 provinces	Preliminary consultation has been undertaken to sensitize local authorities	Headmasters and parents associations are sensitized to the importance of sending children to school and enrol them	- campaigns in all sites through posters, leaflets, etc. - organize meetings with parents associations and school heads	Advocacy	- school heads - parents associations	50'000 parents and families		25'000	
Cotonou		Staff of the Brigade for the Protection of Minors and emigration services are trained to rescue children and prosecute traffickers	- organize a six- month child psychology course in Cotonou for the police - organize training in legal procedures	Capacity building	Staff of the Brigade for the Protection of Minors and emigration services	20	C.R.I.E. (Interdisciplinary Research Center)	20'000	Staff available to participate in training sessions
Cotonou		Data on traffickers, trafficked children, prosecution cases and judgements are available	Building a central database	Research/ Networking			C.R.I.E.	15'000	
Abomey-Calavi Ste Rita	Centers where trafficked children are provided with shelter and services	Bi-lateral agreements are operational (Benin/Gabon, Benin/Côte d'Ivoire, Benin/Nigeria) and children are repatriated in safe conditions	- consular services in Gabon, Côte d'Ivoire and Nigeria organize the repatriation of intercepted children - transit centers are set up and equipped - identify the families of origin of rescued children	Direct action	Trafficked children	1'500 (500 per year)	- Ministry of Foreign Affairs - Ministry of Social Affairs - Ministry of Justice - NGOs	80'000	

Intermedian	I		Outputs Activities Areas of Intervention Type No.	aries	Potential	Budget (US\$)			
Intervention site	Justification of the choice of the site	Outputs			Туре	No.	implementing agencies	IPEC	National
Intervention sites		Children at risk are prevented from being victims of trafficking	- facilitate school enrolment of children at risk in their communities - follow up monitoring in families - provide children with vocational training	Direct action				50,000	- school fees - teachers

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COUNTRY ANNEX³ II:

BURKINA FASO

Programme Location:	Ouagadougou

³ Provides specific details on the national context, response, programme interventions, target groups (number of beneficiaries), and partner agencies (specified where possible). Details on objectives, outputs, activities, indicators and assumptions are not repeated since they are basically similar for all participating countries.

The population of Burkina Faso is estimated at 12 millions inhabitants in 2000. This population is young as 55% of the Burkinabe are under 18. Burkina Faso is one of the poorest countries in the world. According to the UNDP Human Development Index, 1999, it ranks 171st out of 174 countries with a GNP of \$ 300 per year per person; 45% of the population live below the poverty line.

Almost 91% of the population is engaged in cattle rearing or agriculture. In 1996, the contribution of agriculture to the Gross National Product (GNP) was 40%, the industrial sector contributed only 18% while that of the administrative sector was 40%, although it employed only 4% of the population. The informal sector (e.g. street trade) plays a very important role in day-to-day life.

Poverty combined with its central location in West Africa, makes Burkina Faso a country of transit resulting in substantial rural exodus, growing delinquency among the youth and the phenomenon of trafficked children. Child trafficking in Burkina Faso is both cross border and internal. Internally, trafficked children are placed as domestic workers or "apprentices" in the informal sector. Children between 10 and 17 from both sexes are particularly vulnerable to exploitation. All parts of the country are affected by this problem, although big cities as Ouagadougou and Bobo Dioulasso are the major poles of attraction for children. It is estimated that more than 80,000 children are placed, through intermediaries, in Ouagadougou and Bobo. However, these children might not all be victims of trafficking. The majority of these children originally come from the Somou, Kossi, Mouhoun or Balé regions or the South-East (Poni, Bougouriba, Ioba), and belong to the following ethnic groups: the Dafing, Dogons, Samos and Dagara.

Children are recruited by Burkinabe or foreign traffickers who generally live in the receiving countries or areas with the complicity of their parents. Traffickers are men as well as women. In Ouagadougou and Bobo, 15 professional networks to "place" children were identified during the national survey.

At the sub-regional level, Burkina Faso is known as a sending, receiving and transiting country:

- sending country: some Burkinabe children are working in Ivorian plantations;
- receiving country: Malian children from the Dogon ethny are trafficked to Burkina Faso to work as
 domestics in Ouagadougou and Bobo in particular during the dry season;
- transiting country: the police reports that Dogon children from Mali cross Burkina Faso on their way to Côte d'Ivoire. The major transit points are Faramana, Bobo Dioulasso, Koloko and Banfora.

2. The response

A National Committee has been established for monitoring the application of the Rights of the Child and a national plan of action for the protection of children has been adopted in 1991. However, no specific action has been undertaken to combat child trafficking which has been only recently recognized as a major problem in the country.

The legal framework is still weak: there is no definition of the offence of trafficking, no special jurisdiction for children, lack of qualified lawyers, no collaboration between Burkina Faso and the neighbouring countries on the trafficking issue. Besides, no national programme, either from the Government or from the NGOs, is currently addressing this issue.

	T (*0* (*			Beneficia	ries	D. d. d. l	Budg	get (US\$)
Intervention site	Justification of the choice of the site	Outputs	Areas of intervention	Туре	Number	Potential implementing agencies	IPEC contribution	National contribution
All national territory		Risk areas for child trafficking are identified and a data base is set up	Research/ Monitoring			To be determined	40,000	Human/material resources
6 Border regions (Côte d'Ivoire, Mali, Ghana, Togo, Benin, Niger)	Transit areas	Population at transit areas are better informed on the problem of child trafficking	Advocacy	Communities living in border areas		To be determined	25,000	Human/material resources
Ouagadougou and Bobo- Dioulasso	Main urban areas of Burkina Faso	Implementing partners are sensitized and trained to respond to child trafficking	Capacity building	Staff of police and the media Community leaders	50 police staff 50 journa- lists 50 religious leaders	State technical services	30,000	Human/material resources
Sanguié and Kossi	Two provinces known as sending areas	Repatriated children are provided with a wide range of services to be rehabilitated	Direct Action	Trafficked children	100	To be determined	20,000	Human/material resources

	Lug4: Cantion			Beneficia	ries	Dotontial	Budg	get (US\$)
Intervention site	Justification of the choice of the site	hoice Outputs Areas of intervention		Number	Potential implementing agencies	IPEC contribution	National contribution	
Ouagadougou		Public opinion informed about child trafficking through a series of articles (20) on this issue	Advocacy	Public opinion		 Ministry of Social Action and Family Newspaper "Priorité enfants" 	5,000	Human/material resources
Ouagadougou		Trafficked children are repatriated and provided with services as a first step towards rehabilitation thanks to a repatriation fund	Direct Action	Trafficked children	100	Ministry of Social Action and Family	15,000	Human/material resources
Ouagadougou and Bobo- Dioulasso	Main receiving and transit cities	Trafficked children are provided with basic services	Direct Action	Trafficked children	100	To be determined	15,000	Human/material resources

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COUNTRY ANNEX4 III:

CAMEROON

Programme Location:	Yaoundé

⁴ Provides specific details on the national context, response, programme interventions, target groups (number of beneficiaries), and partner agencies (specified where possible). Details on objectives, outputs, activities, indicators and assumptions are not repeated since they are basically similar for all participating countries.

Located in Central Africa, Cameroon shares its land, sea and river borders with six countries: Central African Republic (CAR), Chad, Congo, Equatorial Guinea, Gabon and Nigeria. Cameroon has an estimated population of 14,493,000. The population is young, with children under 15 making up 45%. It is also predominantly rural, although less so than many other African countries, with 52.8% of the population living in rural areas and 47.2% in towns.

The southwestern part of the country (North-West province and South-West province) was only integrated into Cameroon in the 1960s, having previously been attached to Nigeria at the time of British colonial rule. The area has retained its own identity, and use of the English language is common (whereas French is the official language of the rest of Cameroon).

The economic crisis that struck Cameroon between 1985 and 1995 had a major impact on the labour market: unemployment rose and huge numbers of people shifted into the informal sector, which, in 1997, accounted for around 85% of the active population (source: Division of National Accounting Statistics, Cameroon).

Families have had to develop new survival strategies, including involving children in income-earning activities. Many children are taken out of their family or social environment and sent off to work at an early age. Individuals or whole families may migrate.

The unequal development of the regions and inadequate educational and vocational training facilities are encouraging increasing numbers of children to drop out of school. Educational attainment in Cameroon is extremely low (two children in ten are illiterate). Illiteracy is rife among adults and children. The dropout problem has been accentuated by the economic crisis, with nearly half a million children dropping out of school in 1995. In the North-West province, seriously affected by trafficking in children for their labour, the rural areas that supply children have poor school facilities and generally do not have a secondary or post-primary school

Many children are trafficked within Cameroonian borders. As far as cross-border trafficking is concerned, Cameroon is a sending, a receiving and a transit country for children from elsewhere in West Africa, particularly Nigeria, heading for Gabon.

In general, rural areas supply children and urban and semi-urban areas receive and supply children. Yaoundé and Douala are the main receiving areas of trafficked children, while the English-speaking provinces (South-West and North-West) are the main supplying areas. The urban centres combine both functions, receiving children from rural areas and supplying the country's political and economic centres, Yaoundé and Douala. The vast majority (70.1%) of the child workers are Cameroonian, from the North-West province. Next come children from Nigeria (13.3%), Benin (6.4%), Niger (4%), Chad (3.3%), Congo (2.2%), Togo (2.1%) and CAR (1.2%). In the cross-border traffic, Cameroon is a transit country for children from West Africa, particularly Nigeria, headed for Gabon. The supplier countries are, in order of importance: Nigeria, Benin, Niger, Chad, Congo, CAR, Togo and Mali.

Requests for child workers to live-in with their employers are made by intermediaries or directly by employers. Child placement agencies operate under other names, such as "architect's office" or "construction company", but their main activity is the recruitment and placement of children in Cameroon and abroad. These clandestine placement offices offer jobs as domestic workers or street traders. Interested children turn up to be recruited and sent to work. The intermediaries or employers that made the request for a child pay a fee to the agency. The agency also receives between 6,000 CFA Francs and 10,000 CFA Francs (US\$8-\$13) per child from the parents and the employers. For children trafficked across borders, the agency takes 100,000 CFA Francs (\$130). The child is required to make a contribution of around 2,000 CFA Francs (\$2.6). The intermediaries who specialise in recruiting girls

aged between 10 and 18 into prostitution are mostly women and do not operate out of offices. Most intermediaries are men (88%). They tend to be traders with a high level of education.

The trafficked children are mainly employed as: domestic workers (33.1%), street traders (19.8%), farm labourers (9.4%), waiters in cafés or bars (7%), prostitutes (7%), manual workers (3.6%) and night guards (3.6%). Girls tend to be engaged in high-risk work, as domestic workers (24%), street traders (23%) or prostitutes (14.8%).

2. The response

On the political front, there is no specific policy to eliminate the traffic in children for the exploitation of their labour in Cameroon. However, within the overall framework of the policy of protection and promotion of the child, the ministries concerned have designed strategies with an impact on the prevention of child labour. The main instruments are listed below.

- The (as yet unimplemented) plan of action for the application of the World Declaration on the Survival, Protection and Development of Children in the 1990s.
- The draft national plan for the elimination of child labour in Cameroon submitted to the Prime Minister's department.

Cameroon has ratified various international conventions on children, but not ILO Conventions No. 138 and No. 182, which are reported to be currently under review with a view to being ratified.

Legislation on the protection of children is sparse and little known in Cameroon. Trafficking of children is not specifically mentioned in the current laws or regulations. Article 86 of the Cameroon Labour Code sets the minimum age for admission to employment at 14 years, even though only persons aged 18 and over have the right to initiate legal proceedings.

There are currently no programmes to tackle trafficking in children, since the concept is still new for Cameroon – whether from an employment, social or legal point of view. The similarity of trafficking of children to forced labour as defined by Article 2 (4) of the Labour Code is not evident in Cameroon positive law, where the concept of exploitation is well-established. Article 342 of the criminal code recognises slavery and debt bondage as offences, but makes no reference to "practices similar to slavery".

The programmes under way are frameworks for potential action that could allow the problem of trafficking in children to be tackled, and could offer solutions to specific groups, in the absence of a more comprehensive approach to the promotion and protection of the rights of children.

At government level, the Ministry of Employment, Labour and Social Welfare, which handles issues relating to child labour, does not provide any vocational training opportunities for children aged under 18, except apprenticeships for children aged 14 and over. The Ministries of Education (MINEDUC), Women's Affairs (MINCOF), Social Affairs (MINAS), Youth and Sport have the following programmes:

- The programme to educate the girl child (UNICEF-MINEDUC-MINCOF).
- Youth centres: 318 informal educational institutions that offer practical training and personalised teaching, encouraging members to develop their sense of creativity and enterprise to improve their occupational integration.
- Rural handicraft and home economics courses in semi-urban areas for primary-school graduates, designed to develop the skills required for employment in rural areas, with the aims of slowing the pace of rural exodus.

Programmes initiated by NGOs tend to target children in distress and socially maladjusted children. Their action includes reception, accommodation, counselling, education, training, health care, financial and legal assistance for children in distress, public education about the Convention on the Rights of the Child and combating exploitative employment of children in distress.

Takanadan	Tudio and a solution			A	Benefici	aries	Potential	Budge	t (US\$)
Intervention site	Justification of the choice of the site	Outputs	Activities	Areas of Intervention	Туре	No.	implementing agencies	IPEC	National
Yaoundé Bamenda Bafut Menchum Momo Boyo	Capital city Sending and receiving areas	Public opinion is sensitized	- design a media plan -producing billboards, posters and stickers - Information, Education and Communication (IEC) activities	Advocacy	- children - parents of victims - travel agencies - conveyor unions - public at large	100'000 5'000 20 10	- Ministry. of communication - Cameroon Radio/TV -Cameroon Tribune - Min. of Labour	4'000	
	To be determined	Communities in project sites are sensitized	- design a national awareness raising and education programme - produce support material - training of resource persons - social mobilization in risk areas - special event on 16 June 2001 - organize debates in communities	Advocacy	Public at large		- Ministry. of communication - Cameroon Radio/TV -Cameroon Tribune - Min. of Labour - Min. of Social Affairs - NGOs, etc.	16'000	

T.4	ntervention Justification of the choice of the site			A	Benefici	aries	Potential	Budge	t (US\$)
		Outputs	Activities	Areas of Intervention	Туре	No.	implementing agencies	IPEC	National
		Capacity of partners is strengthened	- design training programmes - produce training material -training of trainers -training of partners - identify intervention strat.	Capacity building	Staff of partner and government agencies		- ILO/IPEC - Technical ministerial departments - Training institutes	26'000	
		Network of partners is set up		Networking				5'000	
		Supplementary data on target groups available	Survey	Research			Ministry of Labour	5'000	
		Repatriation scheme	- report cases of child trafficking - monitor movements of minors at border points - organise the repatriation of the affected children	Direct action	Custom officials		Technical ministries, Embassies/cons ulates, Ministry of Foreign Affairs	13'000	

T.44*	T. d'C. d' Cdl.			A	Benefici	aries	Potential	Budget (US\$)	
Intervention site	Justification of the choice of the site	Outputs	Activities	Areas of Intervention	Туре	No.	implementing agencies	IPEC	National
		Rehabilitation programme	- Increase reception capacities - Build new reception centres - Equip centres - Design a minimum package of services for children - Education and vocational training for the children - Locate families of the trafficked children - Support for families	Direct action	Children and their families	1'000	- Technical Ministries - NGOs	75'000	

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COUNTRY ANNEX⁵ IV:

CÔTE D'IVOIRE

Programme Location:	Abidjan

⁵ Provides specific details on the national context, response, programme interventions, target groups (number of beneficiaries), and partner agencies (specified where possible). Details on objectives, outputs, activities, indicators and assumptions are not repeated since they are basically similar for all participating countries.

Agriculture is the most important economic sector of Côte d'Ivoire. Out of a total area of 322,462 sq. km, 167,100 sq. km is used for agriculture. It contributed 33% of the GNP in 1998 and employed almost 50% of the population. The industrial sector contributes 25.7% of the GNP, while the civil service represents 41.3%, and employs 25% of the population. During the eighties, there was an economic recession, from which the country had recovered. This was reflected in an exceptionally high annual growth rate in the three years preceding the coup d'état: 7% in 1996, 13.7% in 1997 and 14.5% in 1998. Côte d'Ivoire has a large proportion of youth: 48% of the population is below 15 years.

Regarding the child trafficking issue, Côte d'Ivoire is essentially a receiving country and "Placement agencies" were identified in Abidjan. Two out of the seven agencies visited during the operational review were active in trafficking: an intermediary gets information about the demand for children in Abidjan and tries to cater to it by recruiting girls either from families known to him/her or from families to which he/she pays another person to be introduced. The same method is used for recruitment of children for mine and land owners.

The vast majority of children recruited for work in Côte d'Ivoire come from Mali. A report from UNICEF (1999) states that about 15'000 Malian children are used "as slaves" in Ivorian plantations. Most of them are between 5 and 20 years old. Malian children are brought into Côte d'Ivoire by bus through various border check-points, such as Zegoua and Pogo. The journey starts in Sikasso, Mali, where recruiters known as "locataires", as they sublet vehicles for public transport between Mali and Ivory Coast, promise children they will be better off if they go with them than they would be if they remain in their villages. Children are then taken secretly by bus across the border. Travel conditions are extremely precarious and perilous. Children do not have any papers, they are hidden under canvas covers, they must get off the bus in order to avoid roadblocks, and walk long distances in the bush before getting in the bus again. When they arrive in Korhogo, Ivory Coast, they are immediately locked up in the bus station and wait for the employers, to whom the "locataires" will sell the children. The traffic is particularly active during the dry season. Korhogo and Bouaké are the main "trading posts" for Malian children, who will later work in Ivorian plantations of cotton and corn in particular, but also in rice, coffee and cocoa plantations. Their living and working conditions are so difficult that many try to escape. Each fugitive is actively sought and if caught again, s/he will be beaten, locked-up and deprived of food 6.

Plantation owners are said to pay 50,000 FCFA (US\$70) per child (half as reimbursement of the transport costs and half for the child), whereas the Ivorian owner of a mine site pays 75,000 FCFA (US\$105) per child (25,000 FCFA to reimburse the transport costs and 50,000 FCFA for the child). The report points out that the price paid for children working on mine sites is probably more because, due to their innocence, they are believed capable of appeasing the spirits that are said to protect the minerals. This is thought to make it easier for children to gather the minerals.

Ivorian girls recruited to work as domestic servants in Côte d'Ivoire are reported to come from Bondoukou and Bouaké.

2. The response

According to the Côte d'Ivoire study, in 1998, the Parliament brought the phenomenon of child trafficking for labour exploitation to the notice of the government, but few actions have been undertaken to tackle the problem until recently. A workshop on child trafficking organized by UNICEF in April 2000, has resulted in governmental programmes being planned.

⁶ Le jour, 23 December 1998.

Besides, the consular services of Mali in Côte d'Ivoire are in constant communication with the ministerial and municipal authorities of certain regions, resulting in several children being repatriated. Moreover, associations of Malians residing in Côte d'Ivoire are more and more involved in combating trafficking.

Mali and Côte d'Ivoire have recently strengthened their collaboration by signing a bilateral cooperation agreement to fight cross-border trafficking of children on 1 September 2000. Through this agreement, both governments have expressed their political will to abolish child trafficking and have therefore jointly elaborated national plans of action covering all aspects of prevention, traffic control, as well as repatriation and rehabilitation of exploited children. A permanent Monitoring Committee has been established. It will hold its first meeting in December 2000.

					Beneficia	ries		Buc	lget
Intervention site	Justification of the choice of the site	Outputs	Activities	Areas of Intervention	Туре	Number	Potential implementing agencies	IPEC contribution \$	National contribution
Abidjan	Capital city	Legal framework and political commitment strengthened	 Create national focal point on child trafficking Ratify C.182 Adopt law on child trafficking Create network of partners Define conditions of entry in CI for children 	Capacity building and institutional development	Staff of ministries	20	Ministries of Labour, External relations, Justice, Family, Security, Internal affairs	25,000	5,000
Abidjan	Capital city	Capacities of partner strengthened Improved implementation of laws	Training workshop for staff of border police	Capacity building	Staff of security forces	50	Ministry of Security Ministry of Defense	10,000	5,000
Abidjan	Capital city	Policy makers are informed about child trafficking	Social mobilization campaign	Advocacy	Policy makers and opinion leaders	100	BICESave the ChildrenMDMAIDFONEF	10,000	5,000
Aboisso/Noe	On the Eastern border, entry point for children coming from Ghana, Togo, Benin, etc.	Number of trafficked children entering in Côte d'Ivoire is reduced	Set up local committee Information campaign Support services for children	Direct action	- Security agents - Community members - Trafficked children	2020200	- BICE - Communauté ABEL-LVIA - Centre social d'Aboisso	10,000	5,000
Bouaké	Second transit point for children trafficked from North to South	Number of trafficked children entering in Côte d'Ivoire is reduced	Set up local committee Information campaign	Advocacy	- Community members - Security agents	2020	- EASEMO - KOKO Bouaké - AEJT/CI	10,000	5,000

	Justification Beneficiaries Potentia		Bud	lget					
Intervention site	of the choice of the site	Outputs	Activities	Areas of Intervention	Туре	Number	Potential implementing agencies	IPEC contribution \$	National contribution
Korhogo	First transit point for children trafficked from North to South	Number of trafficked children entering in Côte d'Ivoire is reduced	Set up local committee Information campaign Support services for children	Direct action	Security agentsCommunity members	2020	– ANAED Korhogo – AEJT/CI	10,000	5,000
Ouangolo Dougou	On the Norther border; entry point for children coming from Mali and Burkina Faso	Number of trafficked children entering in Côte d'Ivoire is reduced	Set up local committee Information campaign Support services for children	Direct action	Security agentsCommunity members	2020	- ANAED Korhogo - AEJT/CI	55,000	15,000
Bouaflé	Plantations area where trafficked children are exploited	Number of trafficked children entering in Côte d'Ivoire is reduced	Set up local committee Information campaign Support services for children	Direct action	- Security agents - Community members - Trafficked children	2020200	– BICE – EASEMO-Bouaké	10,000	5,000
Issia	Area where children are exploited in small-scale mining	Number of trafficked children entering in Côte d'Ivoire is reduced	Set up local committee Information campaign Support services for children	Direct action	Security agentsCommunity membersTrafficked children	2020200	BICE	10,000	5,000

INTERNATIONAL LABOUR OFFICE (ILO)

INTERNATIONAL PROGRAMME ON THE ELIMINATION OF CHILD LABOUR (IPEC)

Combating the trafficking of children for labour exploitation in West and Central Africa (phase II)

COUNTRY ANNEX7 V:

GABON

Programme Location:	Libreville

⁷ Provides specific details on the national context, response, programme interventions, target groups (number of beneficiaries), and partner agencies (specified where possible). Details on objectives, outputs, activities, indicators and assumptions are not repeated since they are basically similar for all participating countries.

Trafficking of children in Gabon is a transnational rather than internal phenomenon. Gabon is a major receiving country in the region with children from West and Central Africa working within its borders. This is mostly due to the lack of control of the borders and the relative well being of Gabon compared to its neighbours. The total population reach 1,2 million inhabitants of which only 33% is below 15 years of age. The GNP per capita was of 3,880 US\$ in 1994, compared to 250 US\$ at the same period in Mali.

The children from West and Central Africa are trafficked into Gabon by boat, car or plane. There is to date no accurate data on the number of foreign children working in Gabon. However, some studies show that the vast majority of children come from Benin (Ouemé, Mono, Atlantique and Zou provinces), Togo and Nigeria. They are between 7 and 18 years old and most of them are girls.

Children are generally recruited by "tanties" from their own communities who have been living in Gabon for some time. They work in the urban informal sector, as domestic workers or street vendors. They live illegal in the country, have no access to education or health services and are exploited by their employers.

2. The response

The Constitution of Gabon guarantees the protection of children against exploitation and moral, intellectual or physical neglect. Forced labour is prohibited. The minimum age for admission to employment in factories is fixed at 16 years. Exceptions to this rule can only be made by decree, on the basis of a common proposal from three Ministries. Article 178 of the Labour Act provides for medical examination of employees younger than 18 years and, in case of hazardous work, 21 years. Punishments such as penalties or imprisonment are stipulated in the same Act. Legislation concerning child trafficking is not yet well established, but sanctions can be imposed for providing assistance for fraudulent entry into the national territory, by making false declarations or falsifying documents. A Law on child trafficking and child slavery ("Projet de loi relative au trafic et esclavage des enfants") has been drafted by the Ministry of Justice and submitted to Government and is proposed to be put before the National Assembly by "procédure d'urgence". According to Penal law, prostitution and the debauchery of children is punishable with imprisonment. A new article has been drafted to be introduced into Penal law, prohibiting trafficking of children and stating sanctions against offenders.

The problem of child trafficking is perceived by the Gabonese authorities as being part of the wider illegal immigration issue and is therefore treated as such. The only answers to child trafficking have been, until now, rounds up organized by the police in immigrant boroughs of Libreville and the repatriation of children to their countries of origin. There are few Gabonese NGOs and the ones which exist do not address this issue. However, immigrant communities from West Africa are very active. Five NGOs active against child trafficking, including NGOs from immigrant communities, have recently formed a "Collectif des ONG". They organize actions to follow up the situation of children in host families in Libreville and are often associated to repatriation operations with the support of their respective embassies. Despite *ad hoc* actions undertaken by the civil society, Gabon has not yet fully recognized the problem of child trafficking in its broader dimension and has not taken the necessary measures to provide children trafficked into Gabon with appropriate services. However, there is a strong commitment of the Government to adopt a new attitude: Gabon hosted the sub-regional consultation on trafficking of children organized jointly by the ILO and UNICEF in February 2000 and created an interministerial committee against child labour and child trafficking in May 2000, as well as a "Follow-up Committee on the Libreville Plate-form", chaired by the Ministry of Labour.

It is unfortunate that the consultant recruited during the first phase of this project has not been able to complete the national survey requested. In order to make up for this delay help Gabon to be part of the

emerging dynamic in the sub-region which aims at preventing child trafficking and rescuing former trafficked boys and girls, IPEC developed a strategy to be implemented at national level for phase II.

	Justification			Benefic	ciaries	Potential	Budge	t (US\$)
Intervention site	of the choice of the site	Outputs	Areas of intervention	Туре	Number	implementing agencies	IPEC contribution	National contribution
		National review available	Research			To be selected by CTA/AO/NDT, with assistance from EMAC	10000	
		National Plan of Action against child trafficking finalized at a national workshop, including not yet existing consensus about the concepts and objectives of the different actors	Policy development			CTA/Ministry of Labour, NGOs, (IPEC Abidjan and EMAC as facilitators)	5000	
Libreville Port-Gentil Oyem/Bitan Franceville/ Moanda	Main cities of Gabon (half the population of Gabon lives in Libreville)	Employers of children are sensitized on the rights of the child, the situation of children victims of trafficking and national and international laws regulating trafficking of children	Awareness raising	Employers of children (Gabonese and West African families)	20,000	Media Immigrant communities Local authorities Immigrant communities Local authorities NGOs	20000	

	I4'6'4'			Benefic	riaries	D-44'-1	Budge	t (US\$)
Intervention site	Justification of the choice of the site	Outputs	Areas of intervention	Туре	Number	Potential implementing agencies	IPEC contribution	National contribution
		Politicians and the general public in Benin, Togo and Nigeria are sensitized on the reality of child trafficking from these countries to Gabon by a video produced in Gabon	Awareness raising	Politicians and general public in Benin, Togo and Nigeria		Media, NGOs	5,000	
Libreville Port-Gentil Oyem/Bitan Franceville/ Moanda	Main cities of Gabon (half the population of Gabon lives in Libreville)	Children are sensitized on the rights of the child and the possibilities to be provided by a range of services as a transitory measure before going back to their countries	Awareness raising	Trafficked children from West and Central Africa working in the informal sector and domestic work	15,000	Immigrant communities Local authorities NGOs	20000	
		National law is reviewed to introduce (i) the offence of trafficking and define penalties ant (ii) the protection of all persons or organizations active in the field of combating child trafficking	Capacity building and Institutional development	NGOs, committed individuals		Ministry of Justice	10,000	

	I4'6'4'			Benefic	ciaries	D-44'-1	Budge	t (US\$)
Intervention site	Justification of the choice of the site	Outputs	Areas of intervention	Туре	Number	Potential implementing agencies	IPEC contribution	National contribution
		National staff dealing with trafficked children are trained on legal measures and informed on child friendly programmes and services	Capacity building and Institutional development	Staff of the police, customs, the judiciary		Ministry of Labour, "Comité de suivi de la plate-forme de Libreville"	15,000	
		National Committee against child labour and child trafficking have strengthened capacities	Capacity building and Institutional development	Members of the Committee		Ministry of Labour (IPEC Abidjan, EMAC)	10000	
		Bilateral or multi-lateral agreements to provide rapid response to cases of child trafficking are signed and operational	Capacity building and Institutional development			Ministry of Justice, Ministry of Social Affairs, Ministry of Foreign Affairs	15000	
Port-Gentil, borders	NGOs active in repatriation of trafficked children in Port Gentil	Trafficked children entering in Gabon are identified thanks to increased and better controls at borders	Direct action	Trafficked children	500	NGOs, Embassies Police, Customs, Ministry of Social Affairs, CEDOC, Ministry of Interior	15,000	
Country- wide		The extent and nature of child trafficking are known by the establishment of a permanent monitoring system (children, traffickers, methods of trafficking)	Monitoring	Trafficked children		Ministry of Interior, CEDOC, Statistical Office	10,000	

	I. atification			Benefic	ciaries	Dodondial	Budge	t (US\$)
Intervention site	Justification of the choice of the site	Outputs	Areas of intervention	Туре	Number	Potential implementing agencies	IPEC contribution	National contribution
Libreville	The vast majority of trafficked children work in Libreville	3 shelter homes established, equipped and run in Libreville (2 centers run by NGOs and 1 owned by Ministry of Soc. Affairs presently not yet operational)	Direct Action	Trafficked children	500	"Collectif des NGOs", Ministry of Social Affairs,	10,000	
Libreville, Port-Gentil		Trafficked children entering in Gabon are provided with support services and repatriated safely to their home countries in collaboration with national authorities and shelter homes	Direct Action	Trafficked children	500	"Collectif des NGOs", NGOs in Port Gentile, Private industry partners (e.g. Elf) Ministry of Social Affairs, Embassies	25,000	

INTERNATIONAL LABOUR OFFICE (ILO)

INTERNATIONAL PROGRAMME ON THE ELIMINATION OF CHILD LABOUR (IPEC)

Combating the trafficking of children for labour exploitation in West and Central Africa (phase II)

COUNTRY ANNEX¹ VI:

GHANA

Programme Location:	Accra

¹ Provides specific details on the national context, response, programme interventions, target groups (number of beneficiaries), and partner agencies (specified where possible). Details on objectives, outputs, activities, indicators and assumptions are not repeated since they are basically similar for all participating countries.

The population of Ghana is 18.3 million (1990 estimate), with 45 per cent under 15 years of age. With an annual growth rate of 3.2 per cent, Ghana's population may reach over 19 million by the year 2000. Most of the population is concentrated in the southern part of the country, with the highest densities occurring in urban areas and cocoa- producing areas. The largest regions in terms of population are Ashanti (about 2 million), eastern (about 1.7 million) and greater Accra (about 1.5 million).

According to the Ghana report, most of the income of an average poor household is derived from subsistence production. Many children are working in this sector, as their assistance is considered essential for the survival of the average household. They can therefore not afford education, since there is neither money nor time for school. The weakness in the social security scheme, in particular, the absence of efficient pension schemes, has led to the use of child labour as a support system for the aged.

It is reported that the majority of trafficked girls are aged between 7 and 16 years and work as domestic servants, while boys, who are trafficked to work in diamond mines, are mainly between 10 and 17 years. Children are mostly trafficked from the Northern region, inhabited by the fishing communities of the Volta, the eastern part of Greater Accra and from poor peripheral and urban slum areas towards Accra, Kumasi and the relatively viable fishing zones along the banks of Lake Volta. Sekondi-Takoradi, the Western Region capital, is a major recruiting centre, transit point and departure node. The fishing communities of Half Assini, Mpataba, Jewi Wharf and Agona Nkwanta in the Western region use these small commercial centres for trafficking. Female recruiters are active at Makola, Nima, Maamobi and Agbogloshie markets, in the suburbs of Accra.

There are cases of trafficking reported from Ghana to Togo, Côte d'Ivoire and Nigeria where children, in majority young girls, are usually forced into prostitution.

2. The response

The Government of Ghana has initiated a number of policies and programmes aimed at curbing the vulnerability of children to all forms of child labour exploitation. These include the promulgation of the Children's Act 1998, the provision of Free Compulsory Universal Basic Education (FCUBE) and the Universal Children's Law enacted out of Constitutional provision on Children's Rights.

There have been various interventions by NGOs, churches and other religious organizations to cater for street children, orphans and abandoned children who become ready victims of child traffickers but none of these interventions are dealing directly with children rescued from trafficking as such. Although there is enough evidence that the problem of child trafficking in its worst form exists in Ghana and is on the increase, no sustainable and concerted action has been undertaken to tackle the problem yet. Due to the illegal and hidden nature of child trafficking, the magnitude or actual extent (in numbers) of the problem is not known.

					Beneficiari	es	Potential	Budge	t (US\$)
Intervention site	Justification of the choice of the site	Outputs	Activities	Areas of Intervention	Туре	Number	implementing agencies	IPEC contribution	National contribution
Accra		Trainers trained in relevant institutions	TOT for national level trainers	Capacity building	Social partners' Training units	35	Child Labour Unit/IPEC Office	5,000	
Project sites: Kpando Kumani Ada Tamale Axin Bolga	High incidence of child trafficking in these areas	Teachers trained	TOT for district level trainers	Capacity building	Teachers in districts where the project sites are		Ministry of Education Training Units	6,000	
Ada Tamale Takoradi		1,000 Peer educators trained	3 Training seminars for Peer educators trained	Capacity building	Recruiting communities	1,000	African Center for Human Development	6,000	
Accra		Trainers in legal and security institutions trained	One TOT for legal and security training personnel	Capacity building	Training personnel in legal and security institutions	40	Child Labour Unit	2,000	
Accra		Child labour and trafficking incorporated in curriculum of legal and security Inst.	Ensure child labour and child trafficking are incorporated into in-service training curricula for legal and security institutions	Capacity building	Staff of legal and security institutions		Training Units	5,000	
All 10 regions			Conduct one training session for members of the media	Capacity building	The media	50	Child Labour Unit	8,000	

					Beneficiari	es	Potential	Budget	(US\$)
Intervention site	Justification of the choice of the site	Outputs	Activities	Areas of Intervention	Туре	Number	implementing agencies	IPEC contribution	National contribution
Project sites		District Committees for the elimination of child trafficking established (DCEC)	Establish district committees for the elimination of child trafficking and equip them with basic materials to work (DCEC)	Capacity building	Communities, families and children		Child Labour Unit and IPEC Office	8,000	
Project sites		Stakeholders at local level trained	Conduct training workshops for partners in project sites	Capacity building	Staff of project partners	60	Training Units	5,000	
Accra		Child trafficking is incorporated into various action plans and policy on child trafficking developed	Conduct one policy seminar for relevant institutions	Capacity building	GNCC NCWD MESW TUC Employers	40	GNCC Child Labour Unit CLU	10,000	
Project sites		500 victims of trafficking rehabilitated, placed in schools	Withdraw and provide guidance and counseling to 500 child victims Place 500 victims in either formal or nonformal education Trace families and return 500 victims to parents or place in shelters	Direct action	Victims of trafficking	At least 500	Yet to be identified	57,000	
Project sites		Baseline data made available for measuring progress	Conduct baseline surveys in project sites	Research	The programme		ACHD	12,000	
All over the country		Traffickers closely monitored at district level	Set up a chain of informants at district level to report on activities of traffickers	Monitoring	The programme		The Police Service	5,000	

	Y				Beneficiario	es	Potential	Budget	t (US\$)
Intervention site	Justification of the choice of the site	Outputs	Activities	Areas of Intervention	Туре	Number	implementing agencies	IPEC contribution	National contribution
Accra		Trafficking activities monitored at national level	Produce bi-monthly reports from security agencies on activities of traffickers and action taken	Monitoring	All stakeholders		MESW Statistical Unit	1,000	
Project sites		Structures for the elimination of child trafficking established	Set-up community structures in project sites for monitoring activities of traffickers and presence of new children into their communities	Monitoring	Children, families and communities		DCEC	5,000	
Project sites		Activities of traffickers at project sites monitored	District and area committees monitor activities of traffickers and report to IPEC	Monitoring	Trafficked children	At least 500	District Assemblies	15,000	
Accra		Stakeholders meeting instituted	Institute regular stakeholders meetings for information sharing	Monitoring	Stakeholders	Over 50 institutions	IPEC Office NSC	5,000	
Districts CLU Accra		Monthly reports prepared	Collate and distribute monthly reports from all DCEC	Monitoring	Country Programme		Child Labour Unit and IPEC Office	2,000	
Project sites IPEC Office		Database updated	Updated child labour database using the tracking system	Monitoring	Country Programme		MESW Statistical Unit	2,000	

					Beneficiario	es	Potential	Budget	t (US\$)
Intervention site	Justification of the choice of the site	Outputs	Activities	Areas of Intervention	Туре	Number	implementing agencies	IPEC contribution	National contribution
All 10 regions		Religious bodies sensitized to child trafficking	1 workshop sensitization for religious bodies	Advocacy	Christian Council Catholic Secretariat Pentecostal Council Charismatic Churches Ahmadiya Islamic Council	60	Child Labour Unit in collaboration with TOT in partner institutions	2,500	
All 10 regions		Staff of security and legal institutions sensitized	1 sensitization seminar for security agencies and legal system	Advocacy	Judiciary Legal Services Police Immigration Customs FIDA	50	Child Labour Unit in collaboration with TOT in partner institutions	3,500	
Project sites		12 drama sketches produced	Develop/show a drama sketch	Advocacy	Local communities		District assemblies in project areas	4,000	
All 10 regions		Both rural and urban communities sensitized on child trafficking issues	Organize bi-monthly radio talk shows	Advocacy	Local communities		Ministry of Communication	2,000	
Project sites		Campaign materials prepared and distributed to project sites	Produce and distribute campaign materials on child trafficking including 20,000 posters 2,000 leaflets 20 bill boards	Advocacy	Local communities		Ministry of Communication	18,000	
All 10 regions		Awareness created among trade unionists	Sensitization in workplaces by TUC	Advocacy	Members of TUC		TUC	8,000	
Accra		Policy makers sensitized towards policy development on child labour	1 sensitization seminar for policy makers including: legal services, Parliamentary select community on labour/training Dept	Advocacy	Legal services Judiciary Parliament CHRAG MOC, MOE, MOF, MOFF, MLG	50	Center for Policy Development University of Ghana	3,000	

INTERNATIONAL LABOUR OFFICE (ILO)

INTERNATIONAL PROGRAMME ON THE ELIMINATION OF CHILD LABOUR (IPEC) $\label{eq:control}$

Combating the trafficking of children for labour exploitation in West and Central Africa (phase II)

COUNTRY ANNEX² VII:

MALI

Programme Location:	Bamako

² Provides specific details on the national context, response, programme interventions, target groups (number of beneficiaries), and partner agencies (specified where possible). Details on objectives, outputs, activities, indicators and assumptions are not repeated since they are basically similar for all participating countries.

1. The national situation

Mali is a landlocked, sub-Saharan country, with an estimated population of 10 million inhabitants, of whom more than 67% are under 25 and almost 80% live in rural areas. The poorest section of the population is mainly made up of small farmers.

The Malian economy is mainly based on agriculture, animal husbandry and fishing. These activities do not produce enough to sustain the economy. The poverty threshold in Mali has been set at an annual income per capita of 137,000 CFA Francs or US\$228, in comparison with the global threshold of 150,000 CFA Francs or US\$250 (DNSI 1988/89). Most of the population lives under the poverty line.

As regards education, despite the efforts of the country's authorities, Mali still has one of the lowest rates of school attendance in the world: the net enrolment rate was of 30% for boys and 19% for girls in 1998. There are also disparities between urban and rural areas, as well as between different regions of the country. Free public education does not exist in practice and not all parents can afford to contribute towards paying school fees. The educational system suffers from inadequate school infrastructure. As a result of these financial and material constraints, many people are in favour of retaining traditional forms of education, which are perceived both as a way of acquiring knowledge and as an initiation into the realities of life and the child's future roles and responsibilities. For various reasons, but above all because of decisions made by adults, children are becoming involved at a younger and younger age in various forms of employment, such as domestic work, apprenticeships and farming.

According to a survey conducted by UNICEF in 1998, some 10,000 -15,000 children are victims of trafficking. The Malian consular authorities in Côte d'Ivoire estimate that trafficking has claimed some 600 children since 1995. There are in fact no reliable statistics on the number of children, let alone any breakdown by sex, age, level of education or area of origin. In view of the nature of the work for which they are recruited (agricultural workers in the cotton or maize fields, or the banana, coffee and cocoa plantations), most of the children are boys. The few girls in the group are destined as maids with families in town. The only official data available relates to children who have been repatriated and those stopped at the border on their way to Côte d'Ivoire. Between January 1998 and December 1999, 155 Malian children (152 boys and three girls), ranging in age from 12 to 20, were either repatriated from Côte d'Ivoire to Mali or stopped at the Malian border.

Children mainly come from poor, isolated rural areas and are not usually enrolled in school. During the dry season from January to June, young boys and girls from rural areas head for urban centres and neighbouring countries to make some money and, in the case of girls, to prepare their trousseau.

The regions of Mali supplying most of the children are Sikasso, Mopti and Koulikoro, the ethnic groups involved being the Bambara, Dogon and Senoufo. The traffic is one way, with children leaving Malian villages for farms and plantations in the northern areas of Ivory Coast and the coastal lowlands. There is a long tradition of emigration (for adults and indeed entire families) from Mali to Côte d'Ivoire, which began well before the 1960s and stepped up considerably in the 1970s and 80s following the extended drought throughout the Sahel. A number of adult migrants (more than 500,000 according to the Malian Consulate in Bouaké) from various regions of Mali have settled in Côte d'Ivoire. They were followed there by young people seeking jobs to keep themselves occupied during the off-season. Children are either recruited directly by middlemen, usually from the local area, or are intercepted by professional traffickers at markets or while in town. There are two levels of recruitment in the trafficking network: would-be child migrants picked up on departure from Mali and children picked up when they are seen at markets in Côte d'Ivoire.

Most employers are non-native Senoufo farmers from the north and plantation owners from central Côte d'Ivoire. They recruit children from the middlemen/traffickers against payment of between 100,000 and 200,000 CFA Francs (US\$165 and US\$330). As a rule, there are no contracts and children do not know

how much they are going to make out of the transaction. They invariably have to work for nothing initially in order to pay back what their employer has paid the middleman.

2. The response

On the legal front, Articles 187, 188 and 189 of the Malian criminal code forbid trafficking in children.

At the political level, Mali has for some time expressed its wish to promote the rights of women and children. To this effect, Mali has ratified the Convention on the Rights of the Child and the African Charter of Rights and Well-being for Children, as well as tabling a bill requesting the National Assembly to authorise ratification of ILO Convention No. 182 on elimination of the worst forms of child labour. Consultation is reportedly in progress with a view to ratifying Convention No. 138.

Mali has also drawn up a national plan for the survival, development and protection of children. The country's determination to combat trafficking in children is demonstrated by, amongst other things, the ten-year programmes to develop education (PRODEC) and health (PRODES), the start of a national programme to combat child labour, with support from the ILO/IPEC, and the establishment of a children's parliament which is closely monitoring the implementation of government policy as it impacts children.

In September 2000, Côte d'Ivoire and Mali have signed a bilateral co-operation agreement to manage a programme of repatriation and rehabilitation for child victims of trafficking.

3. Programme interventions, target groups and partners

Takanadan	Justification of the			A	Beneficia	ries	Potential	Budge	t (US\$)
Intervention site	choice of the site	Outputs	Activities	Areas of Intervention	Туре	No.	implementing agencies	IPEC	National
Bouaké (Côte d'Ivoire)	Transit point for trafficked children	Destination areas form trafficked children from Mali to Côte d'Ivoire is mapped	Assessment survey	Research	Trafficked children	1000	- DNAS - DNPEF - Police - Governmental agencies - NGOs	13'000	5'000
- Ivorian plantations - Sikasso (Mali)	Areas where children work Transit point	Repatriation mechanisms are operational and children are rescued	- identification and interception of children - repatriation	Direct action	Trafficked children	1000	- Police - Malian consulate in Bouaké - Governmental agencies - NGOs	23'000	8'000
- Bouaké (CI) - Sikasso (Mali)	Transit points on both sides of the border	Community watch- dog system operational	- set up patrol unit - set up community structure	Direct action	Trafficked children	1000	- DNAS - DNPEF - Police station in Sikasso - Malian consulate in Bouaké - Governmental agencies - NGOs	15'000	6'000
National level		Public opinion is better informed on the issue of child trafficking	- disseminating results of surveys among the communities - distributing information on international standards	Advocacy	Public opinion		- Governmental agencies - NGOs	19'000	9'000

Intervention	I4:64:			A 6	Beneficia	ries	Potential	Budge	t (US\$)
site	Justification of the choice of the site	Outputs	Activities	Areas of Intervention	Туре	No.	implementing agencies	IPEC	National
Sending prone areas		Families are provided with alternatives Rescued children are rehabilitated	- identify needs of target groups - set up IGAs - follow up of rehabilitated children	Direct action	Trafficked children and their families	1'500	- Governmental agencies - NGOs	38'000	13'000
National level		Best practices available	- evaluating activities of partners to identify positive experiences - disseminate best practices	Research/ Monitoring			- IPEC - Governmental agencies - NGOs	13'000	4'500

INTERNATIONAL LABOUR OFFICE (ILO)

INTERNATIONAL PROGRAMME ON THE ELIMINATION OF CHILD LABOUR (IPEC)

Combating the trafficking of children for labour exploitation in West and Central Africa (phase II)

COUNTRY ANNEX³ VIII:

NIGERIA

Programme Location:	Lagos

³ Provides specific details on the national context, response, programme interventions, target groups (number of beneficiaries), and partner agencies (specified where possible). Details on objectives, outputs, activities, indicators and assumptions are not repeated since they are basically similar for all participating countries.

1. The national situation

Nigeria is the most densely populated country in Africa with over 113 million inhabitants. There are three major ethnic groups: the Hausa-Fulani, the Igbos and the Yorubas. The population under the age of 5 is estimated at 17.1 million; 19.3 million children are aged between 6 and 11.

The civil war caused many Nigerians to flee to neighbouring countries like Gabon, Cameroon, Côte d'Ivoire, Ghana, etc. After the civil war, crude oil became the main export commodity bringing in 90% of the foreign exchange. Unfortunately the so-called "oil doom" set in and an economic recession followed. The down surge of prices of petrol and the continuing military rule in Nigeria, which resulted in several sanctions, had a devastating impact on the economy. This resulted in a low rate of employment. The growth rate is now 6.2% and the average annual income is US\$ 270. About 31% of Nigerian children have no access to basic education.

Nigeria reports that in 1996, 4000 children were trafficked from Cross River State to various parts of Nigeria and to other countries. Calabar is a transit port for children to be sent to Gabon or Cameroon and also for children trafficked from Cameroon entering Nigeria. Information obtained at the Calabar border indicates that Akwa-Ibom, Abia, Rivers and Cross River State have become the targets of modern child trafficking syndicates. Lagos, being the largest city in Nigeria is noted for children coming in from and going out to neighbouring countries like Benin, Togo, Ghana. One of the research officers posted himself at the Seme border and observed at least five child labourers leaving or entering the country every day. The Nigerian report considers these movements to be cases of trafficking, but it is unclear how they can distinguish them from ordinary migration. There is a record of 20 cases of child trafficking across borders from Sokoto monthly. Areas of location that are mostly affected by child trafficking in Sokoto are Cinema, Todun Wada and Shehu Kangiwa Square.

Trafficked children in Nigeria are generally employed as domestic servants, sexual workers, workers in the agriculture sector and drug peddlers.

3. The response

The government of Nigeria set up a National Child Rights Implementation Committee charged with the responsibility at the Federal level to implement the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child. Since then state level committees have been set up as well and similar ones should soon be operative at local government and community levels.

Besides, a Child Rights Information Bureau has been established by the Ministry of Information, in order to collect and disseminate information on children. A National Social Mobilisation Technical Committee⁴ also disseminates this information and mobilises citizens in the defence of children's rights. At present, social mobilisation technical committees, with mobilisation officers of the Ministry of Information at the core, are established at state and local government levels.

A national policy and sensitization workshop on Child Labour was organized in Abuja in November 1998. Participants were drawn from all the state and local governments. Various relevant ministries, notable and active Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs), media organizations, multi-national organizations, the Police, the Immigration Services, Prison and in addition to professionals and resource persons from within and outside Nigeria.

At this workshop, Child Trafficking as an intolerable form of Child Labour was recognized to be an area of serious concern to Nigeria. Various strategies were recommended including massive advocacy

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⁴ Created in collaboration with the Ministry of Information, the Ministry of Women's Affairs and UNICEF.

programme to reach the grassroots; rehabilitation of children suffering from child labour, establishment of Drop-in centres, using child rights clubs and Neighborhood Assemblies to sensitize children nation-wide, need to set up child labour surveillance centres at state level, immediate enactment of the draft children's Decree. The workshop on the Federal Government to expedite action on the ratification of Convention 138 of the ILO on minimum age and the OUA Charter on the Rights of the Child. The workshop finally urged government to accelerate the process of becoming an IPEC programme country.

In October 1999, the Centre for Women Development organized an awareness creating conference on child trafficking. For example Imo State in reaction last year to the news that a boat carrying about 30 children illegally to Gabon sank killing all the children most of them from Imo, Abia and Akwa-Ibom States of Nigeria organized massive advocacy campaign targeted at opinion leaders and parents.

The children's Draft Decree which was prepared in 1993 brought all laws relating to children into one law and which also brought the laws protecting children to be in tune with both the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child and the OUA Charter on the Rights and Welfare of the African Child was unfortunately not adopted before the exit of the military. With the new democratic system the children's law falls under the purview of State legislative Houses of Assembly. The Ministry has completed action to facilitate advocacy visit by a selected team of experts to all 36 legislative assemblies in Nigeria and to lobby them to adopt the children's law.

The awareness on importance of girls' education has increased. Various posters and other IEC materials have been developed. There have been zonal meetings with traditional rulers to discuss girl child education and harmful traditional practices affecting girls and women and ways to stop them. Education was also considered as a major panacea to child trafficking on girls. The Head of State of Nigeria has launched the Universal Primary Education while the budget for Education has been increased. A national plan of action for combating child labour has also been developed. The supply of social services has improved. The embargo on employment has been lifted creating chances of employment of more youths. The Federal Government has set up a Poverty Alleviation Committee to examine all government poverty alleviation programmes with a view to streamlining them and making them more effective. Poverty as we all know is always incriminated in child rights infringement. The Federal Ministry of Women Affairs on its own is intensifying attention on the pilot cities of Kano, Kaduna, Port Harcourt, Onitsha, Lagos and Ibadan for programmes related to children in Need of Special Protection Measures and for improving the urban basic services. In addition 2 pilot Drop-in-Centres for the education of drop out children in Ebonyi and Sokoto States are being proposed.

Another important gains are with the NGOs. The Federal Ministry of Women Affairs has set up NGO Technical Support Network for children related NGOs both at state and national levels. This will help NGOs working for children to better coordinate their work not only among themselves but also with government. This is seen as an important avenue for NGOs to benefit from the regular capacity building and training programmes for NGOs as well as giving them regular subventions.

3. Programme interventions, target groups and partners

					Benefici	iaries	D. A. A'-I	Bu	dget
Intervention site	Justification of the choice of the site	Outputs	Activities	Areas of Intervention	Туре	Number	Potential implementin g agencies	IPEC contributio n \$	National contribution
LAGOS	A "receiving" community. It is also close to the border with Benin from which and to which children are trafficked	Social Welfare Officers, Educators Police and Immigration Officers, Road Transport officers, etc. trained on the general and specific problems of child trafficking	Training of various categories of staff likely to interact with trafficked children	Capacity building	Staff of agencies	36	Local Resource Persons	10,000	(In-kind)
KANO	One of the proposed action programme sites. Both a sending and a receiving community	State and local governments officials trained on the rationale logistics and strategies of combating child trafficking in their domains	Trains officials from the selected action programme State and local government	Capacity building and policy development	Staff of local and State government in Kano State	36	Child Labour Prevention Foundation	10,000	In-kind secretarial support and local transportation at workshop site (\$ 5,000)
CALABAR	It is a "sending" community and one of the proposed intervention sites	Staff of NGOs and employers and workers associations trained to provide effective services to returned ex-trafficked children	Hold training seminar for staff of NGOs, workers and employers organisations in Calabar area	Capacity building	Staff of partner agencies	30	Local resource persons	5,000	In-kind Secretarial to workshop

					Benefici	iaries	B (()	Bu	dget
Intervention site	Justification of the choice of the site	Outputs	Activities	Areas of Intervention	Туре	Number	Potential implementin g agencies	IPEC contributio n \$	National contribution
ONDO (Ondo State)	Closest city to the proposed intervention site (Asawele)	20 Federal officers (10 from Min. of Labour and 10 from Min. of Women Affaires) trained on techniques of identification counseling, referral, rehabilitation follow- up of ex-trafficked children	Hold training workshop	Capacity building	Staff of the two Ministries	20	ILO-IPEC Programme Manager + 2 Resource Persons	30,000	In-kind Secretarial support + local transportation at the training site
KANO	Sending and receiving community	Vocational training provided to 250 ex-trafficked children Tools and inputs provided to children for income generating activities	Identify vocational training centres to provide training to 250 children Identify social partner to monitor training & facilitate the setup & monitor the income generating activities	Direct action	Trafficked children	250	Kano-based ONG	35,000	In kind

					Benefici	aries	D (11)	Bu	dget
Intervention site	Justification of the choice of the site	Outputs	Activities	Areas of Intervention	Туре	Number	Potential implementin g agencies	IPEC contributio n \$	National contribution
LAGOS AND ABUJA	Receiving communities	Capacity of 2 NGOs strengthened to server as Drop in Centres for trafficked children wanting to be rehabilitated some literacy skill recreational opportunities made available to the children at the drop in centres	Provide financial and technical resources to two NGOs, one in Lagos and another in Abuja to provide temporary shelter and counseling to ex-trafficked children before they are rejoined with their parents	Direct action	Trafficked children	400	WOCOM (LAGOS) Child care trust and Wotclif (in Abuja)	50,000	In-kind
CALABAR	Sending community	Grants/loans provided to 100 parents to expand their income generating activities	Select parent to benefit Select financial intermediary to administer loan Select NGO to work with financial intermediary	Direct action	Parents of trafficked children	100	Community band in Calabar and an identified NGO	20,000	
CALABAR	Sending community	300 ex-trafficked children returned to school	In collaboration with a social partner, enrol in school 300 ex-trafficked children and provide financial support for schooling	Direct action	Trafficked children	300	To be identified	30,000	

					Benefici	iaries	D. C. C.	Bu	dget
Intervention site	Justification of the choice of the site	Outputs	Activities	Areas of Intervention	Туре	Number	Potential implementin g agencies	IPEC contributio n \$	National contribution
CALABAR	Sending community	50 ex-trafficked children acquire vocational, skills and are provided with working tools and capital for take-off	50 ex-trafficked children in vocational training programme	Direct action	Trafficked children	50	To be identified	30,000	
ASAWELE	A camp town where trafficked children are collected for distribution	Empirical and data on the activities of child traffickers in Asawele	Collect qualitative data; analyze data Present data in the proposed National Workshop	Research, documentation and monitoring	Nigerian Government		C.A.H.E. (Ile-Ife) Human Development Institute (Ile-Ife) Dept. of Psychology OAU (Ile-Ife)	5,000	In kind
Jos (in Plateau State) and another agricultural community in the South of the country	Earlier study failed to examine activities of child trafficking in the agricultural and mining sector	Data on routes, causes and activities of child trafficking in the two sectors provided to policy makers	Design instrument Collect and analyze and write report Present fundings to stakeholders and come up with a Plan of Action with respect to the two sectors	Research, documentation and monitoring	Nigerian Government		Dept. of Education, or Psychology, University of Jos Dept. of Agriculture Extension, University of Uyo	20,000	In kind

					Benefici	aries	D. A. A. A.	Bu	dget
Intervention site	Justification of the choice of the site	Outputs	Activities	Areas of Intervention	Туре	Number	Potential implementin g agencies	IPEC contributio n \$	National contribution
CALABAR AND ASAWELE AND KANO	Sending community Distribution centre	Plays produced in local languages to depict the consequences of child trafficking	Hold concert and drama to depict the ill consequences of child trafficking	Sensitization	All community dwellers in the two communities	4,000	Local drama groups	5,000	
KANO, CALABAR, ASAWELE, LAGOS	All are proposed sites of Action Programmes	Grass root persons and sensitized about ills of child trafficking and mobilized towards eliminating it	Hold 30 sensitization campaigns, 6 in each site for market women and 30 sensitization campaigns in and out selected schools in each of the areas	Awareness raising sensitization	All members of sending and receiving communities	5,000	To be identified for each locality	10,000	In-kind

INTERNATIONAL LABOUR OFFICE (ILO)

INTERNATIONAL PROGRAMME ON THE ELIMINATION OF CHILD LABOUR (IPEC) $\label{eq:control}$

Combating the trafficking of children for labour exploitation in West and Central Africa (phase II)

COUNTRY ANNEX⁵ IX:

TOGO

Programme Location:	Lomé

⁵ Provides specific details on the national context, response, programme interventions, target groups (number of beneficiaries), and partner agencies (specified where possible). Details on objectives, outputs, activities, indicators and assumptions are not repeated since they are basically similar for all participating countries.

1. The national situation

Togo is a small country (surface of 56,600 sq. km) in which 65% of the population lives in the rural areas. The economy is heavily dependent on agriculture, providing employment to 50% of the labour force. However, the contribution of the agriculture to the GNP is only 40%.

In the South of Togo there are two dry seasons, from November to March and from July to August, while in the North there is only one dry season from November to April. Farmers migrate towards the urban areas in large numbers during the dry seasons.

The Togo report states that the economic difficulties faced by the country are reflected in the low rates of education: in 1998, 33% of the male and 63% of the female population was illiterate. The informal sector (street traders, porters, etc.) is flourishing and can be seen as one of the strategies for survival. According to the ILO, 25% of children in Togo are working.

For the Togo study, the researchers interviewed 96 victims of trafficking who had been repatriated to Togo. 70 children (73%) were aged between 6 and 14 years old and the majority of the children were girls (70%). It should be noted that girls were trafficked at a younger age than boys: 88% of the girls were younger than 15, whereas 62% of the boys were over 15. The report explains the high percentage of girls as being due to the traditional views of parents in the central region of Togo. Parents prefer to invest in their sons instead of their daughters, as the daughters will get married and leave the house to go to their in-laws. The sons however, will stay with the family, contribute to its development and will also perpetuate the family name. Therefore, parents are less concerned about their daughters, and are willing to let them leave the village to find a job. 74% of the 96 children interviewed had quit school at primary level. This high rate of dropout is due to the cost of schooling on the one hand, and unsatisfactory performance of the students on the other.

Mainly three ethnic groups are affected by trafficking: 46% of the interviewed children were Kotokoli, 19% Bassar and 18% Eweh. 46% of the children worked in the commercial sector and 31% in agriculture. Girls are trafficked mainly to Burkina and Niger where they work as domestic servants and to Gabon where they work as street traders or maids. Boys are trafficked mainly to Nigeria and Côte d'Ivoire. Children working in Gabon earn 35,000 to 45,000 FCFA (US\$49 – 63) a month, while those in sub-Saharan countries receive 15,000 to 25,000 FCFA (US\$21 – 35).

In Togo, the regions that supply children are Vo, Yoto, Afangna, Lacs (Maritime region), Tchaoudjo, Tchamba (Central region), Wawa, Est-Mono (West Plateau region); Bassar and Assoli (Kara region). The destinations are Lomé, Kara, Atakparné and Sokodé. The bus stations of Kara, Bassar and Sokodé, in particular, are known to be assembly points for children coming from the Central region, as well as those of Anié and Bagou for children from Agodjolo and its surroundings.

3. The response

In 1993, a Committee for Children was established in Togo to inform and sensitise the population about the Rights of the Child and encourage their defence. A bill was recently introduced in Parliament that aims at fixing a minimum age for the placement of children and repressive measures against traffickers of children.

The Minister of Social Affairs issued a directive, in January 1998, to the regional directors of social services and those in charge of security recommending action against trafficking in children in collaboration with communities, associations and NGOs. A National Plan of Action against trafficking in children was formulated in March 1999 by this Ministry. It focuses primarily on:

• gathering information about the phenomenon of child labour and trafficking;

- reinforcing collaborative structures and mechanisms concerned with the combat against trafficking in children and child labour;
- reducing risk factors at community level by sensitising the sending communities and introducing micro-finance programmes.

Apart from some awareness raising activities, the plan of action is not yet operational, mainly because of scarcity of funds. However some NGOs, such as OASIS Terre des Hommes are very active in assisting children in distress in Togo and providing rehabilitation services to former trafficked children. The OASIS centre is the only rehabilitation centre in Togo at present. It is supported by the Ministry of Internal affairs, the Ministry of Social Affairs and BICE⁶, Côte d'Ivoire.

At regional level, the Togo report mentions that, since October 1984, there is an agreement between Ghana, Benin, Nigeria and Togo, to facilitate the return of children being trafficked and the extradition of traffickers. According to this agreement, if, for example, the Beninese police intercept a convoy of Togolese children being trafficked through Benin to Nigeria or Gabon, the Togolese police should be informed and the children returned. Unfortunately, no further details are provided by the Togo study and the reports of other countries concerned do not make any reference to this agreement.

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⁶ 'Bureau International Catholique de l'Enfance'.

3. Programme interventions, target groups and partners

T	T (10) (1) 0.41			Areas of	Beneficia	ries	Potential	Budge	et (US\$)
Intervention site	Justification of the choice of the site	Outputs	Activities	Intervention	Туре	No.	implementing agencies	IPEC	National
Central Region:	major areas of origin and trafficked children major transit points	- 5 regional centers (including 2 in the Maritime Region) are equipped to shelter trafficked children	- identify centers - equip centers - train staff on project management	Direct action	Repatriated trafficked children	2,000	- Ministry of Social Affairs - NGOs to be determined	20,000	Premises
Kara Region: Kabou Bafilo Bassar Kémérida Plateaux Region: Tohoun Akébou	 major areas of origin of trafficked children major transit points major transit points 	trafficked children are provided with a wide range of services	 provide health, nutritional and psychological services identify families place children back in their families regular follow up of the situation of the child 					50,000	Premises
Maritime Region: • Hilakondji • Afagna • Tohoun	- major transit points	- repatriated children under 12 are enrolled in schools	 identify children evaluate their needs and levels enrol children provide school materials 	Direct action	Rescued children	300 out of 2,000	NGOs to be determined	37,000	

Takanadan	T. A. C.			Areas of	Beneficia	ries	Potential	Budge	et (US\$)
Intervention site	Justification of the choice of the site	Outputs	Activities	Intervention	Туре	No.	implementing agencies	IPEC	National
		- repatriated children and children at risk and their families are provided with alternatives	 create associations of children develop IGAs set up recreational activities strengthen women associations to increase their incomes 	Direct action	Repatriated children and children at risk Families		To be determined	52,000	Premises and lands for IGAs
At national level		The capacities of relevant ministries and embassies are strengthened	- train staff of the ministries of Foreign Affairs, Internal Affairs, Justice and Health, labour and Social Affairs - equip Togolese Embassies in Gabon and Nigeria with necessary tools to ensure the repatriation of trafficked children - finalize and adopt a national plan of action against child trafficking		Staff of ministries and embassies	3,000	To be identified	25,000	

Intervention site	Justification of the choice of the site	Outputs	Activities	Areas of Intervention	Beneficiaries		Potential	Budget (US\$)	
					Туре	No.	implementing agencies	IPEC	National
At regional level (Savannes Region)		5 Regional Committees for the Prevention and Rehabilitation of trafficked children are set up	 identify resource persons in each region train selected persons set up committees equip committees with necessary tools 	Institutional development	Communities at risk	75 Ctes	 Ministry of social Affairs NGOs to be identified 	6,000	- Premises - Vehicles
At local level		Structures at local level are set up based on the Development Committees model	- set up committees in sending prone- villages - sensitize members of committees on child trafficking	Institutional development	Communities at risk Members of committees	2e+0 5	- Regional committees - NGOs	10,000	- Premises - Vehicles
At regional and local levels		Sensitization campaigns are launched by regional and local committees	 develop campaign strategies produce sensitization material organize meetings and rallies 	Advocacy	Communities at risk	200	- Regional committees - Local committees - NGOs	44,000	
At national level		Set up national data-base to monitor the implementation of the project		Research			Research institute to be identified	6,000	Staff and vehicles